

Proposal Request and Comment Form

Date: 2/10/18	Name: Donna Cook/Richard Rom
Connection to Tiverton:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Registered Voter (Elector) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner and/or Work in Tiverton <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Charter Review Commissioners
Proposal and/or Comment:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proposal
Short Title for Proposal:	Article XII Miscellaneous, Section 1201 Open Records
Contact Information:*	<p>May we contact you for questions or clarification? Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Phone number:</p> <p>Email:</p>

Note:

Please return form to Richard Rom, Secretary by e-mail to TivertonCRC@cox.net or by mail or other delivery to:

Tiverton Charter Review Commission
Attention: Richard Rom, Secretary
c/o Tiverton Town Clerk
343 Highland Road
Tiverton, Rhode Island 02878

***Submitted forms will be considered a matter of public record and subject to public inspection.**

Tiverton Charter Review Commission

Comment

Upon review of the current Tiverton Town Charter, I share the following comment:

Large and costly exit agreements/memorandums and settlements are often made by the Town Council in Executive Sessions which are closed to the public. If the public is to pay for these agreements/memorandums and settlements, then the public should have unrestricted access to all the details in these documents, which includes any and all information available to the town council. If an employee wishes to reach an exit agreement/memorandum outside of court proceedings then they must agree to disclose all information that is available to the Town Council. If the employee does not agree to disclose all information, then a court proceeding should be the only other option to the employee and the Town Council.

Executive session voting will be released to the public in "roll call" manner, can not be sealed from the public.

Executive session minutes shall not be kept from the public for infinity, must be released once the purpose for which they were held confidential has passed which includes all sealed minutes.

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Proposal Request

Upon review of the current Tiverton Town Charter, I request that the Commission consider the following proposal to change the Town Charter:

<p>Change Requested</p>	<p>Amend 1201 to:</p> <p>Unless otherwise provided by this Charter or by laws of the State, all records, documents, and accounts of every office, department, agency, council, commission, board, or committee of the Town, including the School Department, shall be open to any person during normal business hours. Any person inspecting public records shall be permitted to make copies and scan images. A reasonable charge may be made for the copies.</p> <p>When State or Federal law protects information then a formal release must be established before the Town Council may use it for deliberations.</p>
<p>Describe why the Requested Change is needed</p>	<p>Transparency and update of wording.</p> <p>The following to be included in this section:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Executive Session voting 2. Executive Session Minutes Release 3. Release to the general public: documents, memorandums, agreements, settlements, contracts, employee exit agreements, investigations and "online posting" of these documents. 4. Employees under investigation report shall be released to the public for inspection of findings within the laws, if redaction is lawfully required, minimal redaction shall prevail or a complete summary of the findings will be released to the general public within 7 business days.
<p>Describe the effect of the Requested Change</p>	<p>Transparency</p>
<p>(optional) List Charter sections effected by Requested Change or New Section</p>	<p>Article XII Miscellaneous</p>

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